

House Bill 698

By: Representative Franklin of the 43<sup>rd</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 elementary and secondary education, so as to prohibit the use of genetically modified foods  
3 or processed foods made therefrom in public school breakfast and lunch programs; to  
4 encourage the use of locally grown foods in such programs to the greatest extent practicable  
5 and consistent with nutritional requirements; to define a term; to repeal conflicting laws; and  
6 for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to elementary and  
10 secondary education, is amended by revising the introductory paragraph and paragraph (1)  
11 of subsection (b) of Code Section 20-2-66, relating to school breakfast programs, as follows:

12 "(b) The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules and regulations which:

13 (1) Establish minimum nutritional requirements for school breakfast programs which  
14 meet or exceed the minimum federal regulations; provided, however, that the use of  
15 genetically modified foods or processed foods made therefrom in such breakfast  
16 programs shall be prohibited. The use of locally grown fresh foods from individual  
17 farmers or farmers' markets, such as fruits and vegetables similar to those made available  
18 through state farmers' market nutrition programs, shall be encouraged to the greatest  
19 extent practicable and consistent with nutritional requirements. As used in this  
20 paragraph, the term 'genetically modified food' means a food that has been genetically  
21 altered through the insertion of deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) from one plant or animal  
22 species into the DNA of another species, as opposed to conventional genetic modification  
23 that is carried out through conventional breeding;"

**SECTION 2.**

Said chapter is further amended in Code Section 20-2-187, relating to a state-wide school lunch program, by adding a new subsection to read as follows:

"(a.1) The State Board of Education shall promulgate rules and regulations which establish minimum nutritional requirements for the state-wide school lunch program; provided, however, that the use of genetically modified foods or processed foods made therefrom in such lunch program shall be prohibited. The use of locally grown fresh foods from individual farmers or farmers' markets, such as fruits and vegetables similar to those made available through state farmers' market nutrition programs, shall be encouraged to the greatest extent practicable and consistent with nutritional requirements. As used in this subsection, the term 'genetically modified food' means a food that has been genetically altered through the insertion of deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) from one plant or animal species into the DNA of another species, as opposed to conventional genetic modification that is carried out through conventional breeding."

**SECTION 3.**

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.